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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

15 APRIL 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento: Governor Newsom Announces Single-Day High In COVID-19 Deaths for California

(U) On the same day Gov. Gavin Newsom announced preliminary criteria for easing the statewide stay-at-home order, the governor also revealed 71 more people have died after testing positive for COVID-19. The governor said the number, which brings the statewide death toll to 758, represents a single-day high since the California Department of Public Health began tracking deaths of people who have tested positive for COVID-19.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [East Bay Times](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Agents Find More Than 40-Pounds of Hidden Drugs

(U) Pine Valley – US Border Patrol agents found more than 40-pounds of methamphetamine, worth an estimated \$98,505 hidden inside a woman's SUV at an Interstate 8 checkpoint near Pine Valley, agency officials said. A drug-sniffing dog alerted on the Dodge Journey around 1:10 p.m. Monday, and when agents searched the SUV they found 42 bundles of methamphetamine hidden in the rear quarter panels, according to a statement from Border Patrol officials. The drugs weighed 43.78-pounds. Agents arrested the driver, a 22-year-old US citizen, and turned her and the methamphetamine over to the Drug Enforcement Agency. The Border Patrol impounded the car.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [San Diego Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – More Than 25 FEMA Employees Test Positive for COVID-19

(U) Washington – More than two dozen Federal Emergency Management Agency employees, including at least one who worked in the agency's main response center, have tested positive for COVID-19, sources said. This week, some people who work in the National Response Coordinating Center, the nerve center of disaster response for the lead agency in this emergency and others, have been sent into quarantine because at least one person who worked in the space tested positive, according to sources familiar with the situation.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [NBC News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – FBI Warns Private Sector Partners of COVID-19 Fraud

(U) Washington – The FBI is warning that American businesses now have an additional concern, fraud by employees seeking to take advantage of the pandemic. In a report disseminated Monday to companies across the nation, the FBI's Office of Private Sector notified members of private industry they should be on the lookout for fake doctor's notes and falsified documentation from employees claiming positive Covid-19 test results. The bureau report warned that the steps a company must take to stop business operations and sanitize work spaces could lead to significant financial loss.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [CNN](#)

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(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – Officials Ban Use of Motorbikes to Curb Violence**

(U) Kabul – Authorities in Kabul will ban motorcycles and scooters in the Afghan capital in a bid to control rampant crime and stop assailants on two-wheelers from conducting targeted killings, officials said. The ban, which takes effect Wednesday, comes after a string of assaults by armed men on motorbikes. Delivery riders, who are seeing heavy demand amid Kabul's COVID-19 lockdown, will be exempted. Most of the crimes in the city, including targeted killings and other crimes, are carried out using motorbikes, according to officials.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [France 24](#)

(U) Egypt – Seven Suspected 'Terrorists' Killed In Cairo

(U) Cairo – An Egyptian policeman and seven suspected Takfiri militants were killed on Tuesday in an exchange of gunfire in Cairo, the Ministry of Interior said in a statement Tuesday. It said three other policemen had also been wounded. The exchange took place in the al-Amiyira district, a public prosecutor said in a statement. The ministry received information a terrorist cell, whose elements embrace Takfiri ideology, were using several areas as a shelter in eastern and southern Cairo as a starting point to carry out terrorist operations.

SOURCE: 14 April 2020, [The Times](#)

(U) Germany – Authorities Arrest Four Members of ISIS Cell

(U) North Rhine-Westphalia – German authorities say police have arrested four suspected members of ISIS alleged to be planning an attack on American military facilities, according to media reports Wednesday. Federal prosecutors said the suspects were arrested early Wednesday at various locations in the western state of North Rhine-Westphalia. The suspects were reportedly all citizens of Tajikistan. One of the cell's alleged leaders, a 30-year-old Tajik man, has been in jail since last year on firearms charges.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [AFP](#)

(U) Switzerland – Authorities Charge Iraqi National as ISIS Recruiter

(U) Zurich – Swiss federal prosecutors have filed charges against an Iraqi man accused of operating as a recruiter and trafficker for ISIS, who has been held pending trial since May 2017. The suspect held a position of authority in relation to other ISIS members, some also high-ranking, and functioned as a recruiter, trafficker, cash-provider and as the recipient of instructions from leading ISIS members. Its investigation uncovered an extensive network involving the suspect and more than 20 other alleged ISIS members in Switzerland, Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon, Finland and another location as yet unidentified.

SOURCE: 15 April 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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